

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

SCALE HOW,
JUNE 9TH, 1902.

DEAR EDITOR,

It has been suggested that a Students' Conference shall be held here during the last week of the Easter holidays of next year, the object being that those students who feel they would get fresh inspiration for their work from a breath or two of the life they enjoyed as students, should be invited to the Conference.

For this purpose it is proposed :

- (a) That some students shall read papers on subjects suggested and announced beforehand, and to be discussed afterwards.
- (b) That members of the staff shall be asked to kindly lecture on some branch of their own subjects, which it is felt would be specially helpful.
- (c) A few students will be asked to volunteer criticism lessons, which will be discussed and criticised in the old familiar way.
- (d) Time will be given for discussing any special difficulties which may have arisen during the year's teaching. At the same time, no individual pupil may be discussed, all students remembering that "Personalities are odious." It is also hoped that students will pass on any success they may have had with P.N.E.U. methods in and out of school.
- (e) It is most important that the discussions shall be made as purposeful as possible, and for this reason the subjects will be announced beforehand, in order that those who take part may, by reference to our Text Books, or otherwise, keep the discussion strictly on P.N.E.U. lines.
- (f) The afternoons will be spent in Nature Walks and

in visiting the old familiar haunts, and the evenings in the various forms of entertainment known as "High Jinks."

- (g) Though the Conference will take place at Scale How, students must be prepared to take rooms in the village, only coming to Scale How for the lectures, etc. Rooms should be secured in good time by those wishing to come.
- (h) It is hoped that every student will signify her opinion about the Conference to Miss Pennethorne not later than August 1st.

Suggestions from any students will be gratefully received.

A Meeting will be held at the A.B.C., opposite Victoria Station, London, on Saturday, Aug. 2nd, at 2-30, to which it is hoped all within reach will go.

- (i) It is suggested that all working details shall be left to a committee, which will be appointed at the meeting.

Yours truly,

THE SENIORS OF SCALE HOW.

AMBLESIDE,
ENGLEFIELD GREEN,
SURREY,

JUNE, 1902.

DEAR FELLOW-WORKERS,

As I sent a short account last year of our little School (then held at the Crown Farm, Englefield Green), I should like to add a few words in this issue of the "Plant" to tell you how far we have advanced since that time.

You see we are now in a house of our own—"Ambleside" we have named it. Not, alas! because its surroundings bear any resemblance to the dear little village among the hills, but in order that the mere word may, like Wordsworth's daisy,

"Greet us like a pleasant thought
When such is wanted."

It is, however, a well-planned, airy and convenient house,

and as we took it in December last, we were able to begin work here in the New Year. Our schoolroom is a very pleasant room indeed, which gets all the morning sun, and opens into the garden.

But the chief reason why I am anxious to insert a few lines in our June Magazine is to ask if any student can propose a worthy successor to Miss K. Clendinnen? In September, Miss Harvey and I shall need someone to help us in the personal care and supervision of our little people, and in return for this help we offer board and lodging, with several hours daily for study, and some advanced tuition. We do not ask that our helpers shall be specially clever, but we do want one who has a fair amount of "saving common sense," and who can *play*. Hitherto, our boarders have been little girls only, although among the day children, boys have been in the majority; but next term, three small "Britons of the Future" are coming to us. I shall be very happy to send further particulars to anyone who may wish it, and I hope that any student who may chance to be in this neighbourhood, and who feels any inclination to look in upon us will do so, as she may be sure of a welcome from

Yours truly,

VIOLET A. PARKER.

SCALE HOW,

AMBLESIDE.

DEAR EDITOR,

This half-term has been an unusually eventful one for Scale How. Our first excitement was created by a visit from Dr. Helen Webb, who stayed here several days, and, before going, gave us an amusing and encouraging address. Our second visitor was Mrs. Franklin, who gave us a very interesting account of the Conference, which she told us has been well attended and most successful. Miss Williams read several of the papers to us.

In consequence of these visits we have had several entertainments. The Juniors excel in this department. The first was a delightful evening of tableaux and acting. There was a touching scene of "Home they brought her warrior

dead" while the song was sung. "The Three Old Maids of Lee" caused great amusement. They first appeared as three blooming young maids in hats and fichus, but when the second verse began they suddenly turned their backs, and a vision of three old hobgoblins in caps and masks burst upon the audience. This was followed by scenes from Kenilworth. The next entertainment was a play, Thackeray's "Rose and Ring," given by Seniors and Juniors combined. The audience were greatly amused, as the story is full of humour and lends itself to acting.

Mr. and Mrs. Yates, who visited us last year, are spending the summer at Ambleside, and Mary now comes to the practising school. Dorris and Eva Lafone have also been at the school during this half-term. We regret to say that Mr. Lafone is leaving Ambleside, and we shall therefore soon lose them.

The Sports were held on May 20th, and were preceded by several days of severe training by ambitious competitors. Besides the usual skipping and potato races, several new competitions were introduced. One was an Observation competition, for the Staff only. The Seniors were arranged in rows behind the shed and peered through eyelet holes, and the Staff had to guess their names by their eyes. In the same way they had to guess the Juniors' hands. The last competition was the "Season's competition," for winners only. The competitors entered singly and blindfolded, and had to guess three different objects by touching them. The prize for this was the traditional blue teapot. The prizes were distributed by Mr. Yates, who made it a most impressive and amusing ceremony.

The Botanical Garden is making great progress, and begins to wear a hopeful green aspect. It is now pointed out by the coach drivers as a local object of interest. A prize was offered by Miss Mason to the first student who should get 30 plants. The Head Gardener succeeded in doing this, and was presented with a copy of Watts' "Happy Warrior."

Our efforts to master the Italian pronunciation have been stimulated by two lectures from Signorina Duse.

Last week Mademoiselle de Neufville stayed here for a few days. She has established one of the "petites familles" that have been so successful in Paris. She told us all about the management of the little household, and showed us

photos. of the children, who looked very well and happy. Mademoiselle organised some French charades for the occasion. The joyful news of Peace reached us on Monday, June 2nd, in the afternoon, and was hailed with great enthusiasm. "God save the King" was sung and a half-holiday proclaimed, whereupon excited pairs of students set off to celebrate the event in picnics and excursions.

The half-term has been postponed until the Coronation, when we are to have Thursday, Friday, and Saturday holidays, and those who are fortunate enough to secure seats will go to London.

Hoping a little Scale How news will be welcome to the Old Students,

We remain,

Sincerely yours,

THE SENIORS OF SCALE HOW.